

Executive Registry

60-3578

9 May 1960

THE President of the United States
 THE White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is my understanding that the purposes of the National Security Council are "to assess and appraise the objectives, commitments and risks of the United States in relation to its actual and potential military power, in the interest of national security, for the purpose of making recommendations to the President; and to consider policies on matters of common interest to the departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the national security, and to make recommendations to the President." It is further understood that the Central Intelligence Agency "advises the NSC; makes recommendations to the NSC; correlates and evaluates intelligence relating to the national security and provides for appropriate dissemination of such intelligence within the Government, ...; and performs such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the NSC may from time to time direct."

Now it seems that these stated practices would preclude the possibility of a flight over Russia being made without the knowledge of the Chief Executive. In writing, there appears to be a circuit of controls and approvals for policy----and no indication of the potential for independent action on the part of either Mr. Dulles or Mr. Cutler. Therefore, Mr. President, I conclude that the responsibility for Mr. Powers' May 1st excursion was yours. Transgressing Russia's very heart is quite a grave thing—it does not seem to imply a benefit to our 'security' worth the possibility of some over-eager soul's pushing a button. I should hate to see the electronic hysteria were an unmarked Russian craft over Denver. Cloak-and-dagger games no longer involve a few over-ego-ed scenarios in dim Algiers per a movie thriller—they involve mankind. Perhaps you've read the attitudes of C. Wright Mills and Lewis Mumford about such national policy as just demonstrated.

I'm deeply sorry that Mr. K. can rightfully throw our 'Christianity' in our schizoid national face. But I'm more appalled by the 1984 Doublethink handling of this disgrace by your Mr. Hagarty.

From my humble sources of information I can only react with shame for the whole incident conducted by my country. How might I be differently informed?

Very truly yours,

E. Paul Meylan

EPM:eg

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

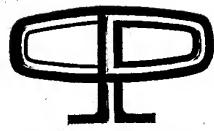


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Central Intelligence Agency
2432 E Street NW
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Allen W. Dulles, Director

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM

UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		INITIALS	DATE
1			<i>FMC</i>	
2	<i>ER</i>			
3				
4				
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ACTION		DIRECT REPLY		PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH		RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE		RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION		SIGNATURE

Remarks:

There should be no reply since he merely sent us a copy of a letter he wrote to the President of the U.S.

*Put in "No reply required"
Folder. FMC*

		TO SENDER
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.		DATE
Stanley J. Grogan, Asst. to the DCI		6/16